

MUD POND

China and Winslow Twp., Kennebec Co. U.S.G.S. China Lake, Maine

Fishes

Largemouth bass Yellow perch Chain pickerel Minnows Golden shiner White sucker Hornpout (bullhead) American eel

Physical Characteristics

Area - 112 acres Temperatures:

Surface - 78°F 10 feet - 74°F

Maximum depth - 12 feet

Principal fishery: Chain pickerel

Mud Pond is a warm very shallow pond surrounded by thick woody emergent aquatic vegetation. The bottom has a deep layer of silt and mud. A strong odor of hydrogen sulfide gas is present indicating decaying organic matter.

After receiving public reports of largemouth bass in Mud Pond, fisheries biologist confirmed the presence of bass in 1998. Prior to bass becoming established, the pickerel fishing was excellent. The large populations of yellow perch and chain pickerel may maintain the bass population at low levels. It will be many years before the ecosystem completely adjusts to this new predator.

Access to Mud Pond is via the outlet stream located adjacent to State Route 137. A canoe is recommended but a small hand-carried boat could be launched. There is no parking area; therefore great care should be exercised along this very heavily traveled road.

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